

TOWHEED

Q Define Touheed? What is its impacts on individual life and society? Elaborate.

Introduction:

Believing in the oneness of Allah that only He is the powerful, eternal, sustainer and the creator of whole universe. It is the core pillar of Islam which is duly emphasized by Prophet PBUH himself.

First part of Kalima affirms the doctrine of monotheism (Touheed) "There is no God, but Allah."

"**لا اله الا الله**". At various instances in Quran Allah (S.W.T) applauded his existence and dislikes those who disbelieve Him. To disseminate his message through Quran He sent Prophet Mohammad He says

قل هو الله احد الله الصمد لم يلد ولم يولد ولم يكن له كفوا احد

Say He is Allah, the One, Allah, the Absolute.

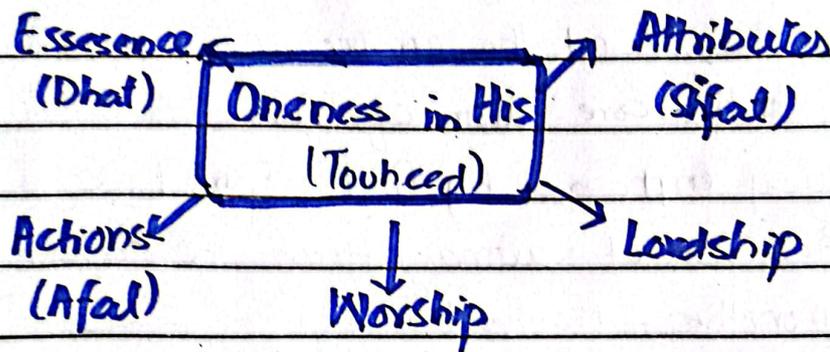
He begets nor He was begotten and nothing is comparable to him.

Touheed has profound impact on individual and societal life. It is the discriminatory force between believers (Momin) and disbelievers (Kafir).

Definition of Tawheed:

In light of Islam:

In Islamic theology, tawheed resonates with the concept of accepting it with heart that absolute oneness rests with only Allah. Emphasizing that He is one in his



Believing that Allah is the sole creator and sustainer of this whole universe.

Allah is devoid of any comparison, resemblance, partnership. He is unique of his virtues. There is ^{no} one like and won't be ever. He is the one who is eternal. He hasn't birthed anyone nor anything is being birth by Him. He is the soul creator to be worshipped and to whom we are accountable here and hereafter. He is Ilah (singular - wahid). He is unique and indivisible. Thus tawheed is the very essence of Quran and Islam.

Tawheed | Indivisible | Incomparable | Incomprehensible

Aspects of Touheed (Islamic Monotheism)

a) Singularity of God's Being:

Unity in a person of Allah demands one to believe that there is one God (Allah) who is smoothly running this universe.

(Al Anbiya 21:22) لو كان فيهما الهة الا الله لفسدتا

"If there had been in them (the heaven and earth) other gods beside Allah, than surely both would have gone to ruin"

There would be multiple gods than they would have disagreement with one another and this universe would have collapsed.

"Are Sundry Lords better or Allah, the one, the Supreme."

b) Touheed: Unity of God's Attributes.

To believe that there is no duality between attributes of Allah and His essence. He is the only one who possesses divine eternity, knowledge and power.

لقد خلقنا الانسان في احسن تقويم

"Indeed we created humans in the best form."

There is none but Allah who masters everything whether to be the sole creator of his creature or to be the worshipped one. He created human in the best possible form.

خلاق انسان من عصال و الفخار

He created man from clay like the potter.

He is the one who is not unique to His attributes and deeds.

c. Touheed 'Unity in God's Actions:

عصا و الفخار

'And your Lord is the doer of what he intends to do.'

Allah is the sole owner of throne who has (wahdaniyat) in his actions. There is no God but Allah can do anything he wants.

انما امره اذا اراده شيئا ان يقول له
كن فيكون

"His command is only when he intends a thing that he says to it. 'Be' and it does" (Surah Yaseen)

Impacts of Touheed on Individual Life:

Touheed inspires a sense of humility and submission to God's will. Also it fosters a sense of purpose and responsibility. It promotes strong sense of morality and ethics. It is also a solace in hardship and uncertainty.

i) Broaden the horizon of vision:-

Touheed helps to see universe as a world to discover. The one who created and expanded whole universe orders to explore and even if one ponders upon the expansion of whole universe, one finds uniqueness of Allah that he is the one who effortlessly arranged everything.

The heavens and the earth were joined together as one unit before we clove asunder" (21:30)

ii) Fostering Self respect and self esteem:

Concept of touheed fosters self respect as one will never

never bow his head to anyone but Allah who is the provider and sustainer. This way self esteem remains uplifted because one doesn't need to knock down different doors. So Allah will not pardon those who associate partners with him or they look upto others for their needs except Allah. It is regarded as Shirk. And verily **ان الشرك لظلم عظيم**

Have faith in Allah and never associate partners to him.

Touheed augments self esteem and respect in eyes of Allah.

iii. Touheed furnishes humility and Gratitude:

Believers and

followers of Allah know that touheed will induce modesty and gratitude in them. They aren't to be proud of their deeds and actions rather they should be bowing before Allah for His mercies.

“And I (God) created not the jin and humans except that they should worship me (Alone). (51:56)

A Hadith further explains modesty and humbleness.

"No one who has atom's way of arrogance in his heart, will enter heaven."

iv) Tauheed nurtures constitation, satily and hopefulness:

The follower and worshipper of Allah can never be a pessimists. It guides us to recieve guidance and strength from Allah alone. This fills heart with utmost optimism and hopefulness. Hadith says

"If you ask, ask Allah and if you seek help, seek help from Allah."

Allah explains it in Quran saying;

"Allah doesnot burden a soul beyond its bear."

Societal Impacts of Tauheed:

1. Tauheed pronounces Unity, compassion and brotherhood:

Allah says in Surah

Hujrat (49:10)

Certainly all Muslims are brothers.

Attributes of God unity and compassion are to be followed by His creation too.

Allah is forgiving and compassionate. He says **If you were to count the favours of Allah, you could not enumerate them. Indeed, Allah is forgiving and merciful. (16:18)**

Touheed also showers us with inner peace and contentment. Allah rightly said, **Put your trust in Allah, if you are believers. Indeed.**

Touheed imparts clear Moral Framework.

Islam classifies

It to be custodian of moral, sociopolitical, legal and societal framework. In the last sermon of Prophet He said that No Arab is superior to a Non-Arab and a Non-Arab is not superior to an Arab. Nor a white has superiority over black or black is superior to white except for his piety and righteousness.

"And indeed, we will (come to) know the truthful and indeed we will come to know the liar". (19-21: 17)

iii) Touheed embellishes equality and Harmony:

Touheed favours that all people regardless of age, gender and status.

Allah promotes equality and harmony among them as they all are equal servants of Allah

واعلموا انكم جميعا

"And hold firmly to the rope of Allah together and do not become divided"

All people are equal in eyes of Allah. There is no evidence of any discrimination.

Humanity is single family of God. This sense of equality and brotherhood creates sense of harmony by chattering channelling harmony and peace in society.

'O mankind, worship your Lord, who has created you and those before you, so that you may become righteous.' (2:21)

Conclusion:

Touheed, oneness of Allah the core pillar of Islam and a prerequisite to be a Muslim. It is the corner-stone of Islam

shaping individual's spiritual journey and influencing societal moral fabric. By embracing tawheed, one can unlock the full potential of our humanity, cultivating a deeper sense of purpose, compassion and other moral values. As we strive to live by golden principles of tawheed i.e. admitting that Allah alone is one in his-self, has singularity in His attributes and actions, we build more equitable and peaceful world reflecting Allah's bounties and wisdom.

"Allah is one, unique and incomparable in His Lordship, Sovereignty and worship. He is one and unique in his names and attributes."

(As saajda)

By recognizing and submitting oneself before the most Merciful and most Beneficent Lord! creates the sense of accountability, optimism and self esteem. This in turn shapes moral character ultimately fostering a harmonious and compassionate society. A sense of accountability would also form ethical and responsible life. In a nutshell, Tawheed is the prime essence of Islam and